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Applicant : De Young, et al.

) Group Art Unit 1631

Appl. No. : 09/619,059

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Filed : July 18, 2000

For : STABILIZING
FORMULATION FOR NGF

December 9, 2002

Examiner : M. ALLEN

(Date)
James J. Mullen III, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 44,957

#15/D
Plunkett
12/17/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks before beginning substantive prosecution of the above-referenced application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 6 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 2, 13, 14, 18, and to read as follows:

2. (Twice Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nerve growth factor (NGF) at a concentration ranging from 0.07 to 20 mg/ml and a pharmaceutically acceptable acetate-containing buffer, wherein the buffer contains an acetate ion concentration of between 5 and 30 mM, and wherein the pharmaceutical composition is of therapeutic purity, adapted for administration to humans.

13. (Thrice Amended) The composition according to claim 2, wherein the nerve growth factor has a concentration of at least 0.1 mg/ml.